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# SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSEMBLY

## Minutes of the Meeting of April 2, 2004

Johnelle Luciani RSM, Speaker of the Assembly, presided.

Bazarsky Lecture Hall

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 1:08 PM.
2. **Announcements.** Faculty travel grant requests for conferences related to travel are due on Monday May 3. Small grant requests are also due on that date.
3. **Minutes.** Item 2 in the Minutes of the meeting of March 6 were corrected to read that 64% of the members of the Assembly have paid dues. With that correction the Minutes were approved by Unanimous Consent.
4. **Treasurer.** There is \$1456.19 in the Assembly's account and another \$140 will be deposited shortly. Seventy-one members have paid dues.

**President:** Sister Therese Antone spoke to the Assembly. She expressed congratulations to faculty members Dr. Mary Montminy-Danna and Dr. Symeon Giannakos for winning entries in the Mercy Vision Contest coordinated by the Mission Committee. She then expressed congratulations and made the following announcements:

Promotions: To Rank of Professor; Dr. Sarah Littlefield

Dr. John F. Quinn

To Rank of Associate Professor: Dr. Linda Crawford

Dr. Eula Fresch

### Presidential Faculty Awards:

Dr. Camille Allen will work in collaboration with other faculty members to develop a proposal to internationalize the curriculum.

Dr. James Garman will be conducting research and applied preservation planning fieldwork on the historical development of the Ochre Point-Cliffs National Register District.

Dr. James Yarnall will be completing work on his book on Newport Architecture and a book on La Farge stained glass.

### Fellowship

Dr. Linda Crawford has been selected to receive a Salve Regina University faculty fellowship to participate in the national *Collegium Institute* this summer.

The President spoke about the recent death of a student. She emphasized the importance of students receiving an integrated and consistent message re: positive life style choices. She requested assistance from the faculty in the form of heightened awareness of destructive behavior patterns in students. The President indicated that she

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has asked for a review and evaluation of student support infrastructure that is now in place and recommendations re: additional efforts that may be helpful. She asked for volunteers from the faculty to work on this Task Force.

The President indicated a number of objectives that have been reached as the result of the University's planning process. They included reaching the projected full-time undergraduate enrollment, implementation of the new core curriculum, increase in student housing, successful capital campaign and the compensation level for faculty and staff.

Sister Therese pointed out that planning and goal setting continues as we enter into the second phase (2004-2010) of a multiple-year planning cycle. Woven together academic, co-curricular and facilities planning form the basis for the future. Interdisciplinary scholarship poses challenges for curriculum design and future programs may require new reconfigured spaces that must be provided. She noted that improvements are scheduled for the biology labs with additional improvements planned in O'Hare over the next two years. A new capital campaign will be launched to fund the repair of McAuley Hall and renovation of the Wetmore Stables.

Sister Therese informed the faculty that a Revenue and Expense Analysis for fiscal 1998-2003 was done. The analysis showed that overall growth in expenses has kept pace with growth in revenue and that the area of greatest increase during the period was in educational and general expenses. This indicates major investments in academics and student services. Auxiliary expenses have been controlled through capital investment in new construction and renovations which have reduced the need for repairs and reduced the cost of utilities and have increased efficiency. Student financial aid is currently budgeted at 28% of tuition revenue. This will be \$11.5 million in the 2004-2005 academic year.

Sister Therese reviewed the Enhanced Faculty Development Program and highlighted changes resulting from faculty input and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Development. She noted that the University has a strong commitment to support faculty development and that she personally has a deep desire to provide for continuous on-going faculty development into the future. The enhanced program provides the opportunity for every faculty member to plan and design an individual professional development program. In addition to sabbaticals and presidential awards, there are three non-competitive funding opportunities available to every faculty member. This program will be funded in the 2004-2005 academic year. Copies of the program were made available.

Sister Therese indicated that Dr. Madonna has formed an Ad Hoc Committee in response to two motions from the Faculty Assembly and discussions at the January Faculty Workshop. Sister Therese has met with the Ad Hoc Committee and requested that the context for work of the committee be from multi-dimensional point of view taking into consideration Salve Regina University's central goals, concerns and suggestions of the NEASC Visiting Team and the totality of institutional challenges.

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In closing, Sister Therese thanked the faculty for their hard work. She encouraged all members of the faculty to be fully engaged in curriculum and personal development and to be aware that change must happen. She noted that keeping the status quo in teaching and learning will stagnate the faculty, the curriculum and, eventually, the university. We are a community of learners with a common mission. We each have a role to play and a job to do; let us continue to support and encourage each other as we each carry the mission of the University.

5. **Motion: Year-End Celebration.** Before the meeting the Speaker distributed a Motion proposed by the Social Committee (Eula Fresch, Judith Keenan, and James Yarnall). The Speaker announced that the committee was withdrawing the date “Monday June 7” in the Motion that was previously circulated and was substituting “Thursday June 3.” Judith Keenan read the Motion.

**That the faculty accept S. Therese’s offer to join the year-end celebration with her Faculty Recognition Ceremony with the understanding that this will allow each faculty member to bring one guest without charge. And that the event originally scheduled for May 18 at the Atlantic Beach Club be changed to the evening of June 3, 2004 at the same location.**

The Motion passed: 39 YES, 21 NO, 4 ABSTAIN.

6. **Advising and Office Hours.** Anthony Walsh, co-Chair of the joint faculty-administration Commission on the Faculty Manual, presented a proposal from the Commission: policy statements on “Student Advising and Office Hours.” The Commission was presenting the proposal at this meeting for discussion and input. A handout describing the proposal had been made available to the Assembly before the meeting. There was a brief discussion.
7. **New Business.** The Speaker asked if there was any new business. A member of the Assembly expressed her gratitude to the President for what she has done for the University.

A Motion to adjourn ended the meeting at 2:15 PM.